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P A P E R S

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COLONIES AND TRADE.

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## COLONIES AND TRADE.

In consequence of the following Communication from Mr. ALEXANDER ANDERSON, relative to the Culture of various useful Plants in the Botanic Garden in the Island of St. Vincent, the Society this Session voted to him their SILVER MEDAL, and elected him a Corresponding Member; and the Catalogue of the Plants growing in that Garden, mentioned in Mr. Anderson's Letter, is reserved in the Society's Library.

SIR,

AS the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, countenance and encourage the introduction and cultivation of useful Plants in the British Colonies, it may probably be acceptable to have some information relative

328 COLONIES AND TRADE.

tive to His Majesty's Garden in this Island, established by General Melville, above thirty years ago; I therefore take the liberty of transmitting you a Catalogue of Plants in it, and the present state of some of the most valuable, which, if you think not foreign to their views, I beg the honour of your laying them before the Society.

I am, SIR,

Your most humble servant,

ALEXANDER ANDERSON.

*Botanic Garden, St. Vincent,*  
*Jan. 24, 1798.*

SAMUEL MORE, Esq.

STATE of some of the most valuable PLANTS  
in His Majesty's BOTANICAL GARDENS  
in the Island of St. Vincent, December 24,  
1797.

ARTOCARPUS INCISUS.—*Otabeite Bread-Fruit.*

In June 1793, of the original plants fifty  
were reserved in the garden, to yield future  
supplies

supplies for the different islands ; of those few were two feet high, or half an inch diameter in the stem ; most of them from six inches to a foot in height. In October 1794 some began to produce fruit ; in March following all of them. At present most of the trees are about thirty feet high ; the stem two feet from the ground from three to three feet and a half in circumference.

The fruit comes out in succession the greater part of the year ; from November till March fewer than at any other time. But as there are six varieties of the tree and fruit in the garden, some kinds are loaded, whilst there is scarcely any fruit on the others ; so that some one of them is always in fruit. The number one tree produces is very great, often in clusters of five or six, bending the lower branches to the ground. According to the different varieties, the fruit is of various shapes and sizes, in weight from four to ten pounds, some smooth skinned, others rough or tuberculated ; taken from the tree before maturity, the juice is of the colour and consistence of milk, and in taste something

## 350 COLONIES AND TRADE.

something similar. It issues for more than ten minutes in a continued stream, and thickens into a glutinous or adhesive substance.

The fruit is in the greatest perfection about a week before they begin to ripen: at that period it is easily known, from the skin changing to a brownish cast, and from small granulations of the juice. When ripe it is soft and yellow, in smell and taste like a very ripe melon: in that state, hogs, dogs, and poultry, are fond of it. When half grown, boiled, it is good food for hogs and poultry. For Bread, the best mode of dressing, is baking it entire in an oven as Bread; when properly done, and laying aside prejudices, with a little custom, it is equal to, if not better than any kind of Bread, as it is lighter and very easy of digestion. Boiled, like yams, it is very good, and by many preferred to being baked. Negroes either eat it in that condition, or cut it in half, and roast it in the ashes. It may be sliced the same as Bread, and toasted on a gridiron

## COLONIES AND TRADE. 331

gridiron. For a pudding, scarcely any thing equals it. After baking or boiling, formed into a mass like dough, and then baked as biscuit, it is nearly the same as biscuit, and will keep as long.

From the first appearance of the fruit (when of the size of an egg), it is three months before they are full, or fit for eating. Having no formation of seeds, the tree produces its progeny by suckers from its roots, at the time it begins to yield its fruit ; and a large young family arises, at the distance of three to thirty feet from the parent stem. For two years past several hundreds of them have been transported to the different islands.

Independent of its utility, the tree is one of the handsomest, and for ornament would be anxiously sought after in any country. It is hardy, a tough wood, and resists the severest gusts of wind.

Besides the Otaheitan, Captain Bligh brought from Timor some plants of the East-India Bread-Fruit, two of which he left in the Garden. Although the fruit is

## 332 COLONIES AND TRADE.

esculent, yet is it far inferior to the other, and a bad substitute. It is ill-shaped, and of a soft pulpy substance ; it has no seeds, but propagates itself as the former does.

The seed-bearing kind, in its external habit, is hardly to be discriminated from the true, yet in fruit differs very much from it, containing no esculent substance but its seeds, in number from forty to eighty, and sometimes one hundred ; in appearance like chestnuts : when roasted or boiled, they are preferred, by many people, to Bread-Fruit. Negroes are very fond of them.

The fruit is nearly the size of the Bread-Fruit, and is covered with prickles like a hedge-hog. As the seeds readily vegetate, Nature has no occasion for the pushing up plants from the roots, as in the Bread-Fruit. Previous to the arrival of the Providence, a young plant of it was sent to the Garden from Martinico for the true Bread-Fruit. It grows as fast, and gives fruit as soon, but rises to a larger and stronger tree. In the French Islands it is known by the name *Chataignier du Malabar.*

LAURUS

## COLONIES AND TRADE. 333

### LAURUS CINNAMOMUM.—*Cinnamon*; Three Kinds.

One of them has been common in the French Islands for many years, and was introduced into the Garden, near thirty years ago, by Dr. Young. It is the *Laurus Cinnamomum* of Jacquin, which he found in the woods of Martinico, and conjectures to be the same as the Ceylon Cinnamon. Although in some parts it has a great affinity with the true Cinnamon, yet on the whole it seems essentially different.

The leaves have the greatest affinity, and the greatest part of its property seems concentrated in them. They smell and taste strong of Cinnamon, and, for culinary purposes, are a good substitute.

The bark of those branches of the size and age from which the finest Cinnamon is obtained, possesses nothing but a rough astringent taste: that from the old trunk, which is very thick, is sometimes strong of the spice. The thin membrane next to the

## 334 COLONIES AND TRADE.

wood is pleasant, but difficult to separate from the thick brittle bark.

Whether or not this is the *Cassia lignea*, or the true Ceylon Cinnamon degenerated through neglect, I cannot determine; be that as it will, it is no occidental plant, as it has no affinity with, or habit of, the American species. It undoubtedly has been introduced from the East into these Islands. Jacquin might naturally take it for an indigenous plant, not adverting to its propagation by birds. Birds are fond of the seeds, and may readily disseminate them in the woods: they have been instrumental in rendering many foreign plants common in these Islands.

From three small trees, found in the Garden in 1785, one hundred trees are at present producing seeds. It is something singular that it can only be increased by seeds, whereas the other two kinds grow as readily by layers and by cuttings as by seeds.

It

It is an erect handsome tree, from fifteen to twenty feet high, with compact erect branches, and thrives in any soil or situation.

The leaves are of an oval-spear shape, with three longitudinal ribs, united above the base (*triplinervia*); the under side of a yellow colour.

The two other kinds were introduced from the East Indies by the French, in 1785 and 1786. A plant of each was sent to the Garden in 1787. The first was from Martinico, by a Gentleman, then a correspondent and fellow-labourer for the true Ceylon Cinnamon. It was four inches high, and prospered remarkably well; so much so, that at present there are thirty young trees producing seeds, with nurseries of several hundred young ones, exclusive of those already sent to the different islands. It grows erect with the former: the branches are shorter and more compact, forming the shape of a cone.

The

## 336 COLONIES AND TRADE.

The leaves are oval, with three longitudinal ribs; sometimes five are united at the base: the under side is of a sea-green colour.

It readily grows from cuttings and layers, as it also does from seeds. From branches of three and four years old the bark is very fine. It seems best when the sap is in greatest plenty, or rising, and is then easily peeled off: at other times it strongly adheres to the wood. During the operation, the juice squeezed out is whitish, and rather insipid. It acquires strength in drying; but whether it is best dried in the sun or the shade, I cannot determine; but specimens, done both ways, accompany this Paper. The leaves are hot and biting, and taste much of the Clove, but little of the Cinnamon.

The third sort was also a small plant, sent to the Garden for the True Cinnamon, by a Gentleman in St. Lucia, in return for plants sent him from the Garden. He obtained it from the Captain of a frigate from

## COLONIES AND TRADE. 337

from the Isle de France bound to St. Domingo, with a cargo of valuable plants, but put in there for refreshments. The leaves of this kind are broad, of an oval oblong shape, with five distinct ribs united at the base; the under side a yellow green: they smell and taste as those of the former kind. Its bark seems to be the best of the three; and its habit, or mode of growth, differs very much from the former two. It rarely grows above eight feet high, if left to nature, but divides, near the ground, into very long slender branches, spreading horizontally: the lower ones are procumbent, but they may be trained up strait. The branches, however, are always much longer, more slender, and with fewer secondary ones, than the others. It has the appearance of another species.

### CARYOPHYLLUS AROMATICUS.—*Clove.*

The first plant was received from Marti-  
nico, at the same time as the Cinnamon.  
As it is a very tender plant while young, it

Z was

### 338 COLONIES AND TRADE.

was frequently lost when three or four feet high, and supposed out of danger, but was fortunately preserved by layers, one of which at present is six feet high, and healthy. This, with ten other young plants, are all the Garden as yet possesses.

The leaves are strong of the Clove, and retain their strength after drying. For culinary intentions they are a substitute.

At what age or size the plant produces seeds, as yet I am ignorant.

Specimens of the different kinds of Barks, mentioned in the foregoing Paper, are reserved in the Society's Repositories.

The

The Thanks of the Society were this Session given to Mr. SIEVERS, of Bauenhoff, in Livonia, the Author of the following Paper, on the Manner of REARING AND TREATING SILKWORMS in the Northern Parts of Europe; and the Society, in consequence of this Communication, elected him one of their Corresponding Members.

SIR,

THE principle that induced me to trouble you with this letter, will, I hope, serve for an apology, and gain your indulgence.

Not till late in this autumn the thirteen volumes of the Transactions of the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, came to my hands. I perused them with so much the more pleasure, as I remember, while in England,

340 COLONIES AND TRADE:

in my younger years, the first existence and sudden rise of this useful Society, by the public spirit of Mr. Shipley, whose name was ever since respectable to me.

I dare not intrude on your time, so usefully employed for the public good of your Country, to expatiate on the many articles I most admired, but especially the encouragement of Plantations, by which the Society will be the benefactor of ages to come: yet one article struck me, for its not answering the expectations and repeated laudable exertions of the Society; I mean, the Cultivation of Silk and the Mulberry-tree, an object so worthy the Society's attention.

I will venture to justify the trouble I am going to give you, Sir, by this long letter, in saying something which may appear of some use on that score. You will smile to hear a man living under the 58th degree of latitude, and so much to the East as beyond the Baltic, speak of the Cultivation of the Mulberry-tree and rearing of Silkworms; yet I hope to win your indulgence, perhaps  
your

COLONIES AND TRADE. 341

your candid approbation of some of my thoughts. Many thousands of English Nobility and Gentry travelled, rambled, even lived, in Italy and the South of France; numbers of them I have seen and known there; but none cared to enquire about the Silkworm, and its prodigious work: amusements chiefly took up their time; of a few, antiquities, statues, paintings, of which, be it said to their honour, no nation has made so rich a harvest on the hungry Italians, preying on the wealth of the English travellers.

But to come to the Silkworms.— While I served, in the year 1758, in the Russian Army, in Pomerania, particularly near the coast of the Baltic, I had the good luck, being quarter-master general of a division, to share a considerable corn field of a gentleman; this produced an acquaintance with the owner: having seen there many plantations of Mulberry-trees, of both sorts, he told me their use, and shewed me

## 342 COLONIES AND TRADE.

their produce. I requested some seeds of both, and the model of a spinning-wheel.

Some of the seeds were sown at a villa near St. Petersburgh, belonging to an uncle of mine; they always froze to the earth, yet in the following years would rise as high as three or four feet, in several branches, and give, with a few larger trees in the green-house, food for three thousand Silk-worms, which gave near a pound of silk. But this essay had no followers, and is now no more.

Another part of the Pomeranian seed was sown next spring at my then living father's estate, where I now live, in Livonia, about eighty-five English miles north of Riga. The frosts took always half of the year's growth. They were planted in a couple of borders, and kept under the sheers, then much in use, as formerly in England. No use was made of the leaves. When I retired from public life, I found no more than forty-five trees, or rather bushes, standing in one row, two feet asunder; I transplanted every second

COLONIES AND TRADE. 343

cond or third tree, by which I lost three trees: I made sucklings, and have more than a hundred low standard trees by them; cuttings I never attempted, misled by a German author, who assured me they would not take.

I wrote for some seeds from Berlin, of the White Mulberry, of which I had many thousand plants: being no botanist, I am not sure they are of the White, though they have leaves much more smooth and tender than my old trees.

The seedlings rose a foot in the first year, but froze to the ground; the next they rose to two feet, of which more than a foot was lost by the next winter; so they did the third year: then I transplanted them, partly in rows in beds, one foot asunder, others in sundry places of light middling land. I gave many hundreds to several ladies, who, hearing of my Silkworms, were curious to have the plants. A lady near the town of Dorpat, near a hundred miles to the north-east, rears already a couple of thou-

## 344 COLONIES AND TRADE.

sand Silkworms, and has a shawl embroidered with her own silk of natural colours. Those planted in rows and beds were, after two years, planted for good, in different places, even in the field; of these, having no shelter, some have suffered more than those which were protected by buildings or other trees.

I made no use of my Mulberry-leaves, till five years ago. Travelling in White Russia, or to be more explicit, in the Government of Polotzk, on the borders of the River Duna, about one hundred and fifty miles to the east of Riga, consequently somewhat colder, I found some ladies ruffling cocoons, having, as they said, no spinning-wheel; the cocoons were spun there the same summer. The mother of these ladies being from the southern borders of former Poland, had brought young Mulberry-trees from thence, which I saw thrive very well, being standard trees of above fifteen feet high, and, near the ground, of about three inches thick.

## COLONIES AND TRADE. 345

They gave me a sheet of paper with some eggs: the next year I had near three thousand worms spinning. A German pamphlet from Berlin served me for instruction, and to make a spinning-wheel, for my Pomeranian model was lost. I had such a great call for cocoons, that, instead of near a pound, which I might probably have had, I got but ten ounces of Silk, taking eight or nine cocoons to a thread. I sent some of the Silk to her Imperial Majesty, of glorious memory, she being a great promoter of all sorts of industry. I received a most gracious letter of thanks from her hand: I sent likewise some Silk to the Society of Economy at Petersburg, whose President, Count Anhalt, wrote to me a letter of thanks and approbation. For myself, I got a pair of knitted white silk stockings, having no loom for weaving in this neighbourhood.

The two following years about the same number were reared, though more might have been so. The sucklings of my old trees transplanted

planted beginning to give a pretty deal of leaves, this year I expected to have had eight thousand; but being obliged to make a journey in the beginning of May to the southern parts of Russia, beyond Kiövia, which journey took up the whole summer, the young lady I intrusted with rearing my Silkworms, full of eagerness to the purpose, exposed the sheets with the eggs to the sun too soon: when the leaves had scarce begun to break, overjoyed at the prodigious number that crept out, she forgot my prescription, counted more than sixteen thousand at the third skinning; but the trees were then almost bare of leaves; she could not resolve to throw one half away, to save the other; so most of the poor animalcula died, and scarce two thousand remained, which gave much smaller cocoons than in the former years. I am even in danger of losing my old trees, for they seem weakened by being stripped too much. Most of my old trees, which are rather bushes of about six, seven, or eight feet, branching

branching from the ground, are of the black sort, bearing very small fruit, much smaller than in England: but those I take to be white ones, do not bear any. I still take them to be such, because they suffer somewhat more by the frosts, and the little creatures eat their leaves more eagerly than from the others.

No insects I ever remarked on either: the Reverend Mr. Swayne's remarking some earwigs, is a phænomenon I never heard of in Italy, nor this summer at Kiovia, nor found it in any book.

From these premises, Sir, methinks we may venture to draw the following outlines of what might be proper to come nearer to the useful and extensive aim of the Society.

I. That the White Mulberry-tree is the only one that will produce Silk. The quotation, page 191, in your Tenth Volume, of Mr. Hanway's Travels, a man of known veracity, I can assure to be true, by what I have heard of a gentleman who lived many years at Astrachan, and had connexions

## 348 COLONIES AND TRADE.

nexions with the Armenians, who are the principal traders with Persia and Persian Silk, an article increasing yearly, for the use of the manufactures at Moscow. The Persian Silkworms, as those in Italy and the South of France, feed most certainly on the White Mulberry leaves alone. This is confirmed by the ingenious and indefatigable Mr. Arthur Young, in his Travels in the South of France and Lombardy, as quoted by Mr. Swayne, which I have read in his works; and Mr. Bertezen affirms the same; while what he gives as his own opinion is evidently fallacious, if not set forward on purpose to mislead. No doubt the Worms will live on the Black, but will not thrive, nor give any other but indifferent Silk. I therefore think, that for a complete establishment and producing Silk, this being the laudable aim of the Society, the White Mulberry alone should be raised, using the Black, existing of old in England, for its fruit, only as a necessitous nourishment, degrading the quality and value of the Silk.

## COLONIES AND TRADE. 349

Silk. As a further proof I must add, that the Oragazine Silk, the best Europe produces, owes its excellence to the particular kind of White Mulberry-trees, of which the branches are grafted on those raised from seed. I remember to have heard, and even read somewhere, that they get, by way of smuggling, the branches to France, to graft the trees in Provence, Dauphiné, and Languedoc: Premiums will bring them as certainly to England.

II. That the White Mulberry-tree will thrive most certainly in England and Wales, and even in Scotland as far as Edinburgh, as a middling standard-tree. The Black and the White will do, though this less flourishingly, as far as the most northern coasts of Scotland, perhaps not as a standard-tree, but certainly as a large bushy shrub, as my old trees are here. My trees, from sucklings and seeds, are trained as small standard-trees, the stem or trunk only four or three feet. To judge by the latitude, the White Mulberry will thrive in Ireland as well as in England

350 COLONIES AND TRADE.

England ; but the seeds should not be taken from France nor Italy, nor any warmer clime. I would propose to get them by Stetten from Pomerania, and from Berlin ; nay, I have been assured some may be had from Koningsberg in Prussia : care must be taken to distinguish the two sorts. The White one may be got too from Dresden and Leipzig : the seed of the Black in England will do for the northern parts of England ; but for Scotland I should rather obtain them from Pomerania and Prussia.

III. That the seeds should be sown in plain but light garden-land, rather somewhat sandy, without any dung whatever. The Rev. Mr. Swayne, in your Tenth Volume, guesses right when he attributes the loss of his plants to the dung.

IV. That I doubt the mode of cuttings to multiply the Mulberry-tree. I will make, next spring, a trial in land, and in a green-house without heat ; yet I think it a mistake : but from Seeds, the aim being universal, it seems more eligible, especially if

## COLONIES AND TRADE. 351

if taken from a northern clime, as proposed above.

V. That, to all those that will undertake to raise Silkworms, an excessive cleanliness should be recommended: no draught of air, no smoke, qualm, damp vapour, or exhalation whatever, should come near them; no sickly person approach them.

VI. That no sun-shine, but only a temperate or broken light, should come upon them; the heat of the room should be between twelve and fifteen of Reaumur: airing more than once, especially in the morning, is necessary. The room should have shutters, to secure them from the effect of thunder and lightning; consequently the bringing them into the air, as proposed by the Rev. Mr. Swayne, I dare not adopt; besides, the carrying the apparatus into the garden, and back into the house, is an unnecessary labour, requiring hands. The apparatus is really a good one, resembling some I have seen formerly in Italy, and this last summer beyond Kiovia, at two estates

of

352 COLONIES AND TRADE.

of Field-Marshal Count Rasoumouzky, who has Mulberry plantations, and got this summer about twenty pounds of pretty good Silk.

VII. That the rearing of Silkworms will take no labourer from the field, nor from any manufacture: it will employ only an elderly woman and a couple of children, of twelve, thirteen, or fourteen years of age, the gathering of the leaves excepted, which will employ one lad of fifteen; all these will rear thirty thousand Worms, or more, in the term of six or seven weeks, producing ten pounds of Silk.

VIII. That for the Mulberry - tree no good land is required, but such as will grow the most common trees on dry land; nay, I will venture to assert, they will grow on Blackheath, on Hounslow-heath, on Finchley Common, and even on the barren Marlborough Downs. To these hints I must add, for the further encouragement of industry, that I found, this summer, at Kiovia, a poor taylor, a native

native of Upper Silesia, who having a small house overagainst the Mulberry - Garden planted by Peter the Great, and having seen the rearing of Silkworms in his native country, began three years ago to rear some with the leaves of that Garden. Last year he delivered twenty-five pounds of Silk to the Director of the Imperial Garden there, who paid him, by order of the Empress, ten rubles a pound. I visited him as a man of desert: I found his house, about twenty feet square, partitioned into four small rooms; in the corner of one of these I found a dozen sacks, of about three bushels each, filled with as large and fine cocoons as I have seen in Italy, and much finer than my own; of these this industrious man hoped to get thirty pounds of Silk. Except the men and boys he employed to gather the leaves, he had for his work to take care of his Worms, whose number he rated to be near a hundred thousand, no more help than his wife, an elderly woman, and three children, of twelve, thirteen, and fourteen years of age.                   A a                   As

354 COLONIES AND TRADE.

As another proof how encouragement raised industry in a similar object, I must add, that in the Prussian dominions Mulberry-trees were planted by order of Frederick William, father to Frederick II. A few hundreds of pounds of Silk were made yearly. This last King neglected the object in the first twelve years of his reign; the years 1750, 1751, and 1752, produced together no more than one hundred and fifty pounds. Count Hertzberg got the care of it. Though taken up with ministerial affairs, he found the object so interesting, encouraged the same with such zeal, gave even medals out of his own pocket, that an incredible augmentation ensued. In the year 1794, when he died, fourteen thousand pounds of Silk were delivered into the Berlin manufacture, proved to be Prussian Silk. Great Britain and Ireland would outdo them very soon, if steps were taken to procure Mulberry seeds and plantations, and that the known public spirit of the Nation would turn its attention to

COLONIES AND TRADE. 355

to that object, and make it a national one.

As a third and last proof, permit me, Sir, to add, that the late Empress, hearing that some Mulberry-trees, planted by Peter the Great, on an Island in the Wolga, near Czaritzin, were grown to a great height, and augmented by nature, she placed there a Colony of Russians, to the number of four hundred males (the place called Achtouba); gave them ten years exemption from imposts, after which they were to pay their capitation and imposts in Silk, at ten rubles per pound. The first Ribbon of the newly instituted military Order of St. George, was of that produce; and though the same was coarse, she said, smiling, she never wore a finer to her mind. From the Silkworms produce, give me leave, Sir, to say a few words of a Plant which seems to be akin to them; it is the *Asclepias Syriaca*, mentioned in Miller's, Mawe's, and Abercrombie's Dictionaries, as a perennial plant in England: I found it

A a a this

## 356 COLONIES AND TRADE.

this summer in an apothecary's garden in Kiovia; was surprised to find its produce so much resembling the Silk; and that in Upper Silesia manufacturers exist that cultivate this plant, and spinning its sort of Silk with Cotton, produce a Silky Stuff. According to a calculation I have seen, half an acre will produce, in the third year, the value of ninety rix-dollars, and so on. Here I should conclude; but, with a heart full of grateful feelings to a happy country, where I passed seven of my younger years, being attached to the Russian embassy, I must ask you a few questions, that may perhaps prove not unworthy the attention of your truly patriotic Society.

Is the *Pinus Cembra*, or Siberian Mountain Pine, or Siberian Cedar, known to you? It is a very fine tree in appearance, and very valuable by its fruit and timber; I find it both in Miller's, Mawe's, and Abercrombie's Dictionaries; and methinks I have seen it at Chelsea, under the name of a Cedar. The fruit grows in their Pine-apples,

COLONIES AND TRADE. 357

apples, in numerous small sweet kernels: it is offered as a delicacy in every citizen's house in Russia; but those kernels will not do for vegetation, because they are dried in the oven to get them out of the apple. This tree would be an excellent acquisition, for Scotland in general, and for the English parks in particular. Its needles are longer and darker than those of the famous Wey-mouth Pine: its home is on the mountains that separate Siberia from Casan, or rather Europe from Asia.

Is the Archangel Larch-tree known to you? All the men of war built at Archangel are of that timber. I have some of eight years old in my garden that are fifteen feet high; the three last years they rose ten feet. I am curious to know from whence came the seeds of Larch planted in England and in Scotland. I do not believe them at home in Scotland, because in Russia, in the Government of Olou, formerly of Noogrod, the Larch-tree begins to grow with the sixty-third degree of latitude: near Arch-

## 358 COLONIES AND TRADE.

angel, and on the borders of the White Sea, I have seen Larch-trees that would serve for masts. Should the English plantations be from thence or America, or from the Alps ?

Why do not the Society offer a Premium for the cultivation of the Weymouth Pine in particular, that tree being in such repute for its speedy growth; furnishing even masts to the navy? Why not for several Timber and Walnut Trees, especially the Black with round, and the other with the oblong fruit? Why not for a number of other American trees and underwood, especially the *Pseuso-Aca*, so renowned in Germany for its rapid growth as such?

All these are well known in England, as I see by lists of the gardeners who sell plants; I know them by three classical works in German; one published at Gottingen, 1789, by Mr. Wangenheim, who served as Captain in the Hanoverian troops all the American war; the other, of the late Professor Du Roy, who directed for

COLONIES AND TRADE. 359

many years the extensive and successful plantations of Mr. Veltheim, between Brurvis and Magdeburg; third, of Mr. Burgsdorff, at Berlin, who has extensive plantations near that town, and carries on a great trade with American and German seeds. These works would be worth your perusal, if you are acquainted with the German language.

To compensate with something the perhaps too tedious length of this letter, I must tell you, Sir, how the public spirit of your respectful Society turned to the advantage of a distant nation. The Society's spirited exertions, and published Premiums, gave the first idea and rise to the Free Economical Society at St. Petersburg, instituted in the year 1766. The late Empress, reading the English news-papers, bid one to explain to her many of the Society's Premiums, with which she was so much pleased, that soon after a Society of fifteen distinguished persons united, with her approbation, who chose soon after many mem-

360 COLONIES AND TRADE.

bers more, of whom I had the honour to be of the first, being then Governor of Great Noogrod. The Society exists, and has promoted many very useful objects; but not being in such affluent circumstances, by the aid of the public, their exertions fall short of those of the English Society.

This letter proves the due regard with which I am,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. SIEVERS.

SAMUEL MORE, Esq.

*Secretary to the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, at London.*

REWARDS